

John Hunt Morgan House,
201 N. Mill St.,
Lexington, Kentucky.

Fayette Co

HABS No. KY-60

HABS
KY.

34-LEX

8.

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Kentucky

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
CENTRAL UNIT—ST. LOUIS

Historic American Buildings Survey
E. T. Hutchings, District Officer
1708 Heyburn Building, Louisville, Ky.

JOHN HUNT MORGAN HOUSE (HOPEMONT)

201 N. Mill St., Lexington, Kentucky.

HABS
KY
34-LEX
8.Historical Data

Year of erection: "The Hunts lived in luxurious apartments over the Main Street store for a time, later moving to a farm on the Russell Cava pike, and in 1811 they came to live at Hopemont...."

Built for (first owner): John W. Hunt.

Architect or designer: Benjamin H. Latrobe.

Built by: Not ascertained.

Original intended use: Residence.

Notable events and occupants:

John W. Hunt, his wife and his brother "came to Kentucky from New Jersey in 1794 and founded the fortune and family that were to figure so prominently in the building of the west and the defense of the south. Setting up a mercantile business at 314 West Main Street.....the Hunts prospered and as the business grew they acquired more property and expanded in every direction, trading in land grants and war department service grants. They shipped goods down the rivers to New Orleans and opened a hemp factory where they employed an army of slaves in the rope walks."

"President John Adams appointed John W. Hunt as postmaster to succeed Washington's appointee, Innis Baxter Brent, who was the first to hold the office in Lexington, and Hunt's name appears on the list of incorporators and stockholders of the Lexington and Ohio railroad which was not only the first railroad built in Kentucky and the west but one of the first in the United States."

After the death of the older Hunts, Mrs. Calvin Morgan inherited the place and when the Morgan heirs sold the house it was purchased by their cousin, Mrs. John Reid. After Mrs. Reid's death Hopemont was sold to Mrs. John Johnstone and it is now a privately owned memorial to John Hunt Morgan.

Reference: Bluegrass Houses and Their Traditions, by Elizabeth M. Simpson, with an introduction by Wm. H. Townsend. Illus. (Lexington, Ky., 1932.) pp.149-158.

Prepared by Ida B. Guild August 30, 1940.
Historic American Buildings Survey,
Central Unit, St. Louis, Mo.

Approved: _____

Date _____

W. H. H. 1/10/40

HABS
KY
34-LEX,
8-

Addendum to
Hopemont (Gen. John Hunt House)
201 N. Mill St.
Lexington
Fayette County
Kentucky

HABS No. KY-60

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240